

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair wishes to announce it will entertain 1-minute and 5-minute special orders until 2 o'clock today.

COMMENDING THE WORLD CHAMPION ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS

(Mr. FLAKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the world champion Arizona Diamondbacks.

On Sunday night, the Arizona Diamondbacks engaged New York in what will truly go down as one of history's greatest baseball games ever.

The game capped one of the most exciting and thrilling World Series that baseball has ever seen.

In the end, the world champion Arizona Diamondbacks emerged victorious, and in doing so, they became the first sports franchise in Arizona's long history to earn the right to call themselves the best in the world.

They also became the fastest baseball franchise to win a World Series, doing so in just their fourth year of existence.

The Arizona Diamondbacks take a lot of criticism sometimes for relying heavily on their aces, Curt Schilling and Randy Johnson, but this victory shows that they are truly a complete team from top to bottom. This is not to mention their rookie manager, Bob Brenly, who did a fantastic job, and the fantastic front office, led by Jerry Colangelo.

Mr. Speaker, I want to express my pleasure not only for what the Arizona Diamondbacks did, but the manner in which they did it. They did it with a great deal of class, integrity, and respect, which is a real reflection on the great State of Arizona.

On behalf of all Arizonans and Americans, I want to thank the world champion Arizona Diamondbacks for providing the country and the world with an exhilarating World Series, which reminds us why baseball is America's favorite pastime.

PAYING RESPECTS TO RAYMOND T. BUTLER OF SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

(Mr. OSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to a friend of mine who passed away this past Saturday. Raymond T. Butler was an icon in the Sacramento community. I know my good friend, the gentleman from California (Mr. MATSUI), also knew him very well.

Ray was involved in virtually every aspect of community life in Sacramento. He was by profession an insurance man, but he was also involved in banks and the cable TV industry. He was a longtime volunteer in numerous civic organizations.

Our community benefited from Ray Butler's involvement in it for many, many years. Our hearts go out to his wife and family in this time of loss.

Mr. Speaker, Sacramento has lost a champion, a lion of its community. We were the better for his presence and we are the lesser for his passing.

□ 1330

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DAN MILLER of Florida). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

DISAPPOINTMENT IN FORMER LEBANESE OFFICIAL'S REMARKS

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I want to express deep disappointment in an article which appeared in yesterday's New York Times with regard to Lebanon.

We lost American men and women at the American Embassy in 1983. We lost 241 Marines who went there to help the Lebanese people and to help the Lebanese Government.

There was an article whereby the former Prime Minister, Selim al-Hoss, said the following: "The United States is consequently a terrorist partner, which makes the U.S. unfit to lead the world."

Mr. Speaker, we need in this region reconciliation; we need peace. We do not need inflammatory statements like this from the leadership and former leadership of the Lebanese Government. We should be bringing people together, not dividing people.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD the article I referred to.

[From the New York Times, Nov. 6, 2001]

LEBANON TO RESIST U.S. SANCTIONS ON
HEZBOLLAH

(By John Kifner)

BEIRUT, LEBANON.—The Lebanese government is indignant over American pressure to freeze the assets of Hezbollah, the Shiite Muslim organization bitterly opposed to Israel.

It is a request the Lebanese are likely to reject, according to officials and accounts in newspapers here including the daily owned by Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri, which is presumed to reflect his views.

"The government is headed for a refusal to freeze Hezbollah money or to interfere with the resistance," that newspaper, Al Mustaqbal, reported today.

The apparent impasse once again spotlights the difficulties the Bush administration has in cobbling together its inter-

national coalition against terrorism in the face of overriding, passionately held views on local issues, particularly the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Hezbollah, whose name is Arabic for Party of God, was listed by the State Department on Friday, along with 21 other groups—a number of them Palestinian supporters opposed to the faltering Middle East peace efforts—as a terrorist organization whose financial resources should be cut off.

Those groups join the list that already includes groups under the control of or with ties to Osama bin Laden, who is suspected of being behind the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

The American action on Friday imposed stringent financial sanctions on the 22 groups. The government seized any assets of Hezbollah in the United States long ago, but the latest move is seen as putting pressure on Arab governments to crack down on the fund-raising activities of Hezbollah and other groups on the list.

The widespread Lebanese outrage over the American demand reflects the distance Hezbollah has traveled since it rose from the Shiite Muslim slums on the southern fringe of Beirut in the early 1980's as a shadowy, brutal band of kidnappers, suicide bombers and airplane hijackers.

Now it is a part of the Lebanese establishment, with members in Parliament, an important social service network and a television station whose news programs are avidly watched by many Lebanese.

Hezbollah has enjoyed the support of Syria and Iran. Syria dominates Lebanon's political affairs.

Indeed, Hezbollah members are officially regarded as national heroes—"the resistance"—for their role as guerrillas who opposed the 22-year-long Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon.

The American ambassador here, Vincent Battle, presented the American position at an emergency meeting he requested on Friday with the Lebanese foreign minister, Mahmud Hammud.

The foreign minister was apparently unimpressed.

"The Lebanese resistance has expelled Israel's occupation army from south Lebanon last year," Mr. Hammud said. "We are proud of it."

"We view the resistance as a legitimate means to liberate our land from Israeli occupation, and we hold fast to it, with the support of Syria and the rest of the Arab world."

Perhaps the most striking reaction came from an unexpected quarter, the elder statesman Selim al-Hoss, a soft-spoken academic and a Sunni Muslim who was the long-suffering prime minister through many years of civil war. He is widely respected for his personal integrity, though as a leader he was rendered powerless by religious militia factions in a land then corrupt beyond imagination.

"America supports the world's most brutal terrorist state and the deadliest ever terrorist who leads it," Mr. Hoss said, referring to Israel and its prime minister, Ariel Sharon. "The United States is consequently a terrorist partner, which makes the U.S. unfit to lead the world."

Indeed, it was widely assumed here that Israel was behind the new list, particularly after the influential Israeli lobby in Washington, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, applauded it.

To Hezbollah the condemnation was a badge of honor.

"We feel proud we have been taken as an enemy that should be blacklisted as terrorist by the Great Satan who heads the greatest pyramid of tyranny, repression and arrogance of modern times," Sheik Hassan Nasrullah, the group's leader, said at a rally.